

August 10, 1999

F/SWC2:MAF:SAL  
CR9206-1.MAF

### CRUISE REPORT

**VESSEL:** *Townsend Cromwell*, Cruise 92-06 (TC-174)

**CRUISE PERIOD:** 13-30 July 1992

**AREA OF OPERATION:** Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (NWHI) (Fig. 1)

**TYPE OF OPERATIONS:** University of Hawaii (UH) cooperating scientists were transported to Nihoa Island. The Nihoa field camp was established on the outgoing leg and disbanded on the return leg. Southwest Fisheries Science Center (SWFSC), Honolulu Laboratory (HL), Protected Species (PSI) personnel were exchanged at French Frigate Shoals. PSI and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) gear was transported to French Frigate Shoals (FFS) to resupply the field camp. Field camps at Laysan and Lisianski Islands were disbanded and personnel were embarked. USFWS gear was transported to Laysan Island and personnel were exchanged. PSI and USFWS personnel were disembarked at Midway Atoll. Tagging efforts and atoll counts were conducted on the Hawaiian monk seal, *Monachus schauinslandi*, for 6 days at Pearl and Hermes Reef. On the return leg, an undersized Hawaiian monk seal pup was embarked at FFS and transported to Honolulu.

**ITINERARY:**

13 July - Departed Snug Harbor, Honolulu for Nihoa. On board Donna Ball, Sheila Conant, Nicolie Feretzki, Michele Finn, Beth Flint, Jennifer Gervais, Elisabeth Gordon, David Hopper, Terry Hunt, Margaret Lee, and A. Ray Rauch.

14 July - Arrived Nihoa Island. Off-loaded UH field camp supplies and gear. Disembarked UH personnel (Sheila Conant, Elisabeth Gordon, David Hopper, and Terry Hunt). Departed Nihoa Island and proceeded to FFS.

- 15 July - Arrived FFS. Off-loaded PSI and USFWS supplies and equipment. Disembarked PSI personnel (Margaret Lee) and UH personnel (Nicolie Feretzki). Embarked PSI personnel (Tanya Holonko and Amy Sloan). Departed FFS and proceeded to Laysan Island.
- 17 July - Arrived Laysan Island. Off-loaded USFWS supplies and personnel (Donna Ball, Beth Flint, and Jennifer Gervais). On-loaded PSI equipment and supplies. Embarked PSI personnel (Brenda Becker, John Klavitter, Leona Laniawe, and Walter Machado). Departed Laysan Island and proceeded to Lisianski Island.
- 18 July - Arrived Lisianski Island. On-loaded PSI equipment and supplies. Embarked personnel (Roian Egnor, Lisa Hiruki, and Heather Johnson, John Klavitter, Leona Laniawe, and Amy Sloan). Departed Midway Atoll and proceeded to Pearl and Hermes Reef.
- 20 July - Arrived Pearl and Hermes Reef and anchored. Deployed small boats to conduct surveys on the Hawaiian monk seal.
- 21-24 July - Deployed small boats to conduct surveys on the Hawaiian monk seal.
- 25 July - Deployed small boats to conduct surveys on the Hawaiian monk seal. Departed Pearl and Hermes Reef and proceeded to Laysan Island.
- 26 July - Arrived Laysan Island. Embarked USFWS personnel (Beth Flint and Anthony Shappel) and PSI personnel (Molly Tarleton). Departed Laysan Island and proceeded to FFS.
- 28 July - Arrived FFS. On-loaded an undersized Hawaiian monk seal pup. Disembarked USFWS personnel (Beth Flint) and PSI (Molly Tarleton) personnel. Embarked PSI (Margaret Lee) and UH (Nicolie Feretzki). Departed FFS and proceeded to Nihoa.
- 29 July - Arrived Nihoa Island. On-loaded UH field camp equipment and supplies. Embarked UH personnel (Sheila Conant, Elisabeth Gordon, David Hopper, and Terry Hunt). Departed Nihoa and proceeded to Snug Harbor, Honolulu.
- 30 July - Arrived Snug Harbor, Honolulu. Off-loaded Hawaiian monk seal pup. Disembarked all scientific personnel. End of cruise.

**MISSION AND RESULTS:**

- A. Establish and disband a UH field camp at Nihoa Island.
  - 1. The field camp was established on July 14 and disbanded on July 29.
- B. Transport Hawaiian monk seals from FFS to Honolulu on the return leg.
  - 1. One Hawaiian monk seal pup was on-loaded on July 28 and transported to Honolulu. Upon arrival, the seal pup was immediately off-loaded and transported to Sea Life Park.
- C. Exchange staff and resupply field camp at FFS.
  - 1. Tanya Holonko and Amy Sloan were embarked and Margaret Lee was disembarked on July 15. Margaret Lee was embarked and Molly Tarleton was disembarked on July 28.
  - 2. Supplies and gear were off-loaded on the outbound leg.
- D. Exchange USFWS personnel and resupply existing field camp at Laysan Island.
  - 1. Donna Ball, Beth Flint, and Jennifer Gervais were disembarked on July 17. Beth Flint and Anthony Shappel were embarked on July 26.
  - 2. USFWS supplies and equipment were off-loaded on July 17.
- E. Disband PSI field camps at Laysan and Lisianski Islands.
  - 1. All gear from the field camps was successfully loaded on board the *Townsend Cromwell* and transported to Snug Harbor, Honolulu. Gear was "debugged" by freezing, handspraying with insecticide or bombing with insecticide in the baitwells. Gear was removed from the vessel on July 31, the day after the end of the cruise.
  - 2. Personnel from Laysan Island (Brenda Becker, John Klavitter, Leona Laniawe, and Walter Machado) were embarked on July 17. Personnel from Lisianski Island (Roian Egnor, Lisa Hiruki, and Heather Johnson) were embarked on July 18.
- F. Transport field camp personnel to Midway Atoll.
  - 1. Roian Egnor, Tanya Holonko, Heather Johnson, John Klavitter, Leona Laniawe, and Amy Sloan were

transported to Midway Atoll and disembarked the *Townsend Cromwell* on July 19.

- G. Survey seals at Pearl and Hermes Reef.
1. Five atoll counts were completed.
  2. Twenty-three Hawaiian monk seal pups and two juveniles were tagged for identification.
  3. All potential entanglement debris was collected, inventoried, and destroyed by burning.

**SCIENTIFIC  
PERSONNEL:**

Michele Finn, Chief Scientist, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Southwest Fisheries Science Center (SWFSC), Honolulu Laboratory (HL)

Brenda Becker, Wildlife Biologist, NMFS, SWFSC, HL

Lisa Hiruki, Wildlife Biologist, NMFS, SWFSC, HL

Amy Sloan, Biological Aide Wildlife, NMFS, SWFSC, HL

Roian Egnor, Research Assistant, NMFS, SWFSC, HL

Tanya Holonko, Research Assistant, NMFS, SWFSC, HL

Heather Johnson, Research Assistant, NMFS, SWFSC, HL

John Klavitter, Research Assistant, NMFS, SWFSC, HL

Leona Laniawe, Research Assistant, NMFS, SWFSC, HL

Walter Machado, Research Assistant, NMFS, SWFSC, HL

Margaret Lee, Volunteer, NMFS, SWFSC, HL

Molly Tarleton, Volunteer, NMFS, SWFSC, HL

Donna Ball, Cooperating Scientist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)

Beth Flint, Cooperating Scientist, USFWS

Jennifer Gervais, Cooperating Scientist, USFWS

A. Ray Rauch, Cooperating Scientist, USFWS

Anthony Shappel, Cooperating Scientist, USFWS

Sheila Conant, Cooperating Scientist, University of Hawaii (UH)

Nicolie Feretzki, Cooperating Scientist, UH

Elisabeth Gordon, Cooperating Scientist, UH

David Hopper, Cooperating Scientist, UH

Terry Hunt, Cooperating Scientist, UH

Submitted by:

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Michele A. Finn  
Chief Scientist

Approved by:

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George W. Boehlert  
Director, Honolulu Laboratory

Attachment